

# The Kernel



FOR MEMBERS OF THE LOUISIANA PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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## Upcoming Events

### Spring Workshop

New Roads, LA  
April 6, 2018  
(225) 638-5533

### TriState ArkLaMiss Pecanference

Raymond, MS  
June 21-22, 2018  
For details, contact  
Stephen Norman at  
lapecans1926@gmail.com  
or 318-448-3139

## Quick Links

[LPGA website](#)

[LPGA Facebook page](#)

[LPGA Officers](#)

[Pecan Station website](#)

[PecanReport.com](#)

[The American Pecan](#)

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March 2018

## Spring Workshop April 6 at 9am

All are invited to Pecan Production Day in New Roads featuring presentations by LSU AgCenter Extension specialists, followed by an afternoon pecan grafting clinic. If you are interested, please register by March 23rd by calling the Pointe Coupee Extension Office, (225) 638-5533 or by emailing [cangeny@lsuagcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:cangeny@lsuagcenter.lsu.edu). Tell them you are with the LPGA to help them keep their numbers straight.

Lunch will be provided at no charge by Louisiana Pecan Growers Association!

The meeting will be held at the Cottonport Community Center, 208 E. Main Street, New Roads.

Sorry for the late notice on this; hope to see you there!

## 2018 TriState Pecanference

Plans are underway for the June 21-22 convention. It will be held at Eagle Ridge Conference Center, 1500 Raymond Lake Rd, Raymond, Mississippi.

The program is still under construction, but the format will be similar to previous meetings. We will begin with breakfast at the Center, then travel a few miles away for the orchard tour at Pecan Hill Farms, owned and operated by Max Draughn. There will be a picnic lunch at the orchards before returning to the convention center for state meetings and visiting the exhibits. The Exhibitors' Reception will be at 6pm that evening. On Friday we will have the formal presentations. We plan to conclude mid-



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afternoon with the famous Littlepage Pecan Guesstimate.

Registration forms will be distributed before long, but you can make reservations now if you like. The conference will be held at Eagle Ridge Conference Center, on the campus of Hinds Community College in Raymond, Mississippi. The address is 1500 Raymond Lake Road, Raymond MS 39154, and the phone number is (601) 857-7100. Rooms have been reserved - ask for "TriState Pecan" - at \$85. To get these rates, be sure to call before May 31.

If you want to look for cheaper rooms, or if Eagle Ridge sells out, you should be able to find something in nearby Clinton, MS.

## Texas Pecan Pest Management March Newsletter

Bill Ree of Texas A&M produces this excellent newsletter. You can click below for a copy of the March issue. Or email Bill at [w-ree@tamu.edu](mailto:w-ree@tamu.edu) to get put on the distribution list so you don't have to wait on me. The website for the Pecan IPM program is [pecanipm.tamu.edu](http://pecanipm.tamu.edu).

[Click here for the March Pecan Pest Management Newsletter](#)

## Commercial Applications of Beauveria bassiana

*Lori Moshman, Rodrigo Diaz, and Dennis Ring*

Beauveria bassiana (Hypocreales: Clavicipitaceae) is an entomopathogenic fungus that occurs naturally in soil. Many strains exist and can vary in host range, pathogenicity (ability to infect a host), and virulence (ability to multiply in the host). The fungus was first isolated in 1835 by Italian scientist Agostino Bassi, who found that it killed and mummified silkworm larvae in what was called muscardine disease.

The first commercial formulations of B. bassiana were developed in 1995 using the strains GHA and ATCC 74040, which are mass produced by fermentation and sold under the trade names

BotaniGard®, Mycotrol®, and Naturalis®. Another strain, ANT-03, was isolated in 2000 and marketed in 2013 under the name BioCeres®. Additional strains are available commercially for a variety of insect pests. B. bassiana is a contact insecticide, meaning its spores must physically contact the insect cuticle in order to be effective. It is therefore important to ensure thorough and even coverage when making applications. It is not necessary for the insect to ingest B. bassiana, as the fungal spores adhere to the insect and penetrate the body cavity when they germinate. Once inside, secondary metabolites (chemicals) are produced including the toxin beauvericin and the antibiotic oosporein which weaken the host's immune system and outcompete intestinal bacteria. White mold may grow out of the insect's body after it has died, but mold growth is not required to achieve control.

As a generalist feeder, B. bassiana controls all life stages of leaf-feeding insects including common pests such as aphids, thrips, whiteflies, mealybugs, caterpillars, beetles, and others. Immature stages tend to be more susceptible than adults. Spray formulations can be applied in greenhouse or field settings, and on ornamental or edible crops. Efficacy is dependent on climatic conditions; greatest control occurs within 68-86°F and above 60% relative humidity. B. bassiana is a slow-acting insecticide because spores require time to germinate and penetrate insects. In greenhouses, control may be reached in 3-7 days, but it is not uncommon for control to take 7-10 days in field settings. Repeat applications are recommended every 5-7 days until a desired level of control is reached.

A commercial suspension of B. bassiana spores has a shelf life of one year when stored at room temperature, and longer when stored in the refrigerator. Product should not be stored below 0°F or above 85°F. Spray mixes should be applied as soon as possible after mixing, as spores cannot survive in water for more than 24 hours and are susceptible to degradation from UV light. Spores remain viable for a longer time when applied to leaf undersides or in the evening due to reduced sunlight exposure. B. bassiana as a biological insecticide is generally not considered systemic (moving throughout the plant) or translaminar (moving

throughout the leaf), although in some crops such as corn and cotton the fungus can inhabit the plant as an endophyte (living inside plant tissue without causing disease). In corn, B. bassiana has been found to move internally in the plant and provide extended control of European corn borer caterpillars throughout the season.

B. bassiana is considered safe for beneficial insects, although it is recommended to avoid spraying directly in areas where bees are actively foraging. If bees are contacted directly they can bring fungal spores back to the hive and infect the susceptible brood. B. bassiana has no reported phytotoxicity effects and has a 0 day preharvest interval (PHI). Reentry interval (REI) is 4-12 hours depending on the product formulation. Some formulations of B. bassiana are OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) approved for organic pest control. B. bassiana may be tank mixed with other insecticides according to label regulations, but should never be mixed with fungicides.

## Suggest a Topic!

We're always looking for topics that will help the most people. Please suggest a topic that has been on your mind, or a favorite speaker you would like to hear again.

[Click here to suggest a topic!](#)

## "No Pecan Picking" Signs

LPGA has had printed yard-type signs with the organization logo and "No Pecan Picking" on one side. These are available for sale to members at cost: \$7/each, including the wire mount. Contact Stephen Norman, lapecans1926@gmail.com or 318-448-3139. I can ship to you for the cost of the postage and a box.



### **Classified Ads**

**WANTED:** Pecan logs 30" diameter or larger. Andrew Moran 225-362-7717, Might be interested in good logs down to 18" diameter. andew@midcityhandmade.com.

### **Facebook Page for LPGA**

We now have a presence on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/louisianapecangrowers](http://www.facebook.com/louisianapecangrowers). If you use Facebook, go there and "Like" the page to "join". Then you will receive any updates we post there. We don't expect to use it to replace any of our existing communications, but hope that it might attract new members. Also, in the fall it is a good place to share pricing information quickly.

### **Advertising Space Available**

For any questions about our LOW advertising rates, please contact Stephen Norman 318-448-3139 or pecans@rosaliepecans.com, or you can [Click here for ad rates and application!](#)

### **Membership Renewal**

Membership in Louisiana Pecan Growers Association comes with several benefits. Members receive the quarterly newsletter by

email free of charge, or by mail for an extra \$20. Members get a discounted subscription price for *Pecan South* and *The Pecan Grower* magazines, and discounted rates for conventions and workshops. An active member generally makes up in savings for the \$50 annual fee. Members can have one free classified ad in the newsletter and on the website, and discounted rates for other advertising. As the website is improved, there eventually will be areas available only to members. Of course there is also the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping the organization maintain the goals of education and promotion of the pecan industry. Our dues are much less than those of sister organizations such as Texas and Georgia.

For any questions about your membership dues, please contact Stephen Norman 318-448-3139 or lapecans1926@gmail.com.

### **2017-2019 LPGA Officers (the Executive Committee)**

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## The Last Shuck



*The New Yorker*

*[submit your entry for The Last Shuck to  
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